

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 1. (Amended) A text string data structure within a computer usable medium, comprising:
2 a multi-field text string object encapsulating a plurality of discrete fields;
3 a first field within the multi-field text string object containing a first character string
4 representing a word; and
5 a second field within the multi-field text string object containing a second character string
6 representing the word.

1 2. (Unchanged) The text string data structure of claim 1, wherein the second character string is
2 different from the first character string.

1 3. (Unchanged) The text string data structure of claim 1, wherein the first character string contains
2 characters from a first character set employed by a first human language and the second character
3 string contains characters from a second character set employed by a second human language.

1 4. (Unchanged) The text string data structure of claim 1, wherein the first character string contains
2 characters for a first human language and the second character string contains characters for a second
3 human language which sound-map to characters within the first character string.

1 5. (Unchanged) The text string data structure of claim 1, wherein the first character string contains
2 an ideograph and the second character string contains a phonetic spelling of the ideograph.

1 6. (Amended) The text string data structure of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a third field within the multi-field text string object containing a third character string
3 representing the word.

1 7. (Unchanged) The text string data structure of claim 6, wherein the third character string is
2 different from the second character string.

1 8. (Unchanged) The text string data structure of claim 7, wherein the third character string is
2 different from the first character string.

1 9. (Unchanged) The text string data structure of claim 6, wherein:
2 the first character string contains characters for a first human language;
3 the second character string contains characters for a second human language which sound-
4 map to characters within the first character string; and
5 the third character string is identical to the first character string.

1 10. (Unchanged) The text string data structure of claim 6, wherein:
2 the first character string contains characters for a first human language; and
3 the third character string contains the first character string prefixed by at least one character
4 with a low sort value.

1 11. (Unchanged) The text string data structure of claim 6, wherein:
2 the first character string contains an ideograph;
3 the second character string contains Latin characters for a phonetic spelling of the ideograph;
4 and
5 the third character string contains syllabary characters for a phonetic spelling of the
6 ideograph.

1 12. (Amended) A method of encapsulating information in a text string data structure, comprising:
2 creating a multi-field text string object encapsulating a plurality of discrete fields;

3 storing a first character string representing a word in a first field within the multi-field text
4 string object; and

5 storing a second character string representing the word in a second field within the multi-field
6 text string object.

1 13. (Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the step of storing a second character string
2 representing the word in a second field within the multi-field text string object further comprises:

3 if the first character string contains characters from a first character set employed by a first
4 human language, storing characters from a second character set employed by a second human
5 language in the second field, wherein the second character string is different from the first character
6 string.

1 14. (Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

2 storing a third character string representing the word in a third field within the multi-field text
3 string object.

1 15. (Unchanged) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

2 storing characters from a first human language as the first character string;
3 storing characters from a second human language which sound-map to characters within the
4 first character string as the second character string; and
5 storing characters identical to the first character string as the third character string.

1 16. (Unchanged) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

2 storing the first character string prefixed by at least one character with a low sort value as the
3 third character string.

1 17. (Amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

2 storing an ideograph as the first character string;

3 storing a Latin character phonetic spelling of the ideograph as the second character string;
4 and
5 storing syllabary characters for a phonetic spelling of the ideograph as the third character
6 string.

1 18. (Unchanged) The method of claim 14, further comprising:
2 storing identical characters as the first, second, and third character strings.

1 19. (Amended) A system for encapsulating information in a text string data structure, comprising:
2 means for creating a multi-field text string object encapsulating a plurality of discrete fields;
3 means for storing a first character string representing a word in a first field within the multi-
4 field text string object; and
5 means for storing a second character string representing the word in a second field within the
6 multi-field text string object.

1 20. (Amended) The system of claim 19, wherein the means for storing a second character string
2 representing the word in a second field within the multi-field text string object further comprises:
3 means, if the first character string contains characters from a first character set employed by
4 a first human language, for storing characters from a second character set employed by a second
5 human language in the second field, wherein the second character string is different from the first
6 character string.

1 21. (Amended) The system of claim 19, further comprising:
2 means for storing a third character string representing the word in a third field within the
3 multi-field text string object.

4 22. (Amended) The system of claim 21, further comprising:
5 means for storing characters from a first human language as the first character string;

6 means for storing characters from a second human language which sound-map to characters
7 within the first character string as the second character string; and
8 means for storing characters identical to the first character string as the third character string.

1 23. (Unchanged) The system of claim 21, further comprising:

2 means for storing the first character string prefixed by at least one character with a low sort
3 value as the third character string.

1 24. (Amended) The system of claim 21, further comprising:

2 means for storing an ideograph as the first character string;
3 means for storing a Latin character phonetic spelling of the ideograph as the second character
4 string; and
5 means for storing syllabary characters for a phonetic spelling of the ideograph as the third
6 character string.

1 25. (Unchanged) The system of claim 21, further comprising:

2 means for storing identical characters as the first, second, and third character strings.